

I recently heard about the proposal to limit the ability of Satellite Radio to provide me with local content (NAB's petition 04-160). As a subscriber to Satellite radio, I am distressed to hear that the NAB would like to place limits on what I can and cannot hear. I believe that what distinguishes a capitalist society from others is the idea that consumer demand and competition among businesses shapes what is offered in the marketplace. The outcome of the NAB's petition would be that instead of the market forcing traditional radio to respond to consumer demand, it would limit the options available to the consumer. Commercial radio long ago abandoned any format that appeals to me. It is their right to do this, especially if they feel it is in their best business interest. As a consumer, I have the right to not listen to the radio and choose to listen to Satellite radio. If traditional radio wants me back, they need to reconsider their programming, not limit the content of satellite radio and thereby control what I listen to.